AO 106 (Rev. 04/10) Application for a Search Warrant

City and state: San Antonio, Texas

SEALED UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FILED

for the

Western District of Texas

JAN 0 3 2019

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT CLERK
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BY
DEPUTY

In the Matter of the Search of

(Briefly describe the property to be searched or identify the person by name and address)

PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT "A" - PROPERTY TO BE SEARCHED DESCRIPTION

Case No. SA-19-MJ-0002

Richard B. Farrer, U.S. Magistrate Judge

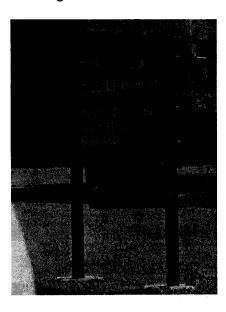
Printed name and title

APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT

i, a federa penalty of perjury property to be search	that I have reason	on to believe that on t	he following perso	n or property (identify the	arrant and state under e person or describe the
See Attachme	ent "A", incorpora	ted herein by referen	ce.		
located in the	Western e property to be seize	District of	Texas	, there is now o	concealed (identify the
See Attachm	nent "B", incorpor	ated herein by refere	nce.		
	for the search un vidence of a crim	nder Fed. R. Crim. P.	41(c) is (check one o	or more):	
_		of crime, or other ite	- · · · · ·		
,		for use, intended for sted or a person who			
The searc	h is related to a v	riolation of:			
Code S	ection		Offer	nse Description	
18 USC Sec	ction 1001	Fraud and false	statements		·
The appli	cation is based o	n these facts:			
S	ee Attachment "C	C", incorporated herei	n by reference.		
 	nued on the attac	hed sheet.			
		days (give exact eagle, the basis of which) is requested
				Applicant's signat	ure
			J	acob C. Dezern, FBI S	pecial Agent
				Printed name and	title 7
Sworn to before n Date: $01/03/$	ne and signed in	my presence.		11/1/52	/ •
Date	<i>VVI </i>		/	Judge's signatur	re-

ATTACHMENT "A" PROPERTY TO BE SEARCHED

1. This warrant applies to Room Number C414D, 1002 Gorgas Circle, Building 1002, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. A drive by of 1002 Gorgas Circle, Building 1002, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, revealed a multi-story barracks building. In front of the barracks was the sign "4100 Bivouac Rd, Charlie Company, 187th Medical Battalion." A photo copy of the sign is below.



- 2. The person of Chengyu Wang, date of birth October 03, 1990.
- 3. The cellular telephone of Chengyu Wang.

ATTACHMENT "B" ITEMS TO BE SEIZED AND SEARCHED

All information described that constitutes fruits, contraband, evidence and instrumentalities of violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, including:

- 1. Cellular telephone.
- 2. Any digital device capable of downloading or using secure messaging application WeChat including but not limited to, computer, hard drive, universal serial bus storage devices, CPU, smart phone, cellular phone, any kind of tablet or iPad, or video gaming console such as Xbox or PlayStation.
- 3. Correspondence pertaining to operating under the direction or control of foreign governments or foreign officials, other than diplomats.
- 4. During the execution of the search of the premises, the person of Wang, and any cellular telephone in Attachment "A", law enforcement personnel are authorized to press the fingers (including thumbs) of individuals found at the premises and Wang to the Touch ID sensor electronic device(s), smart phone, any kind of tablet or iPad, found at the premises, or on the person of Wang as described in Attachment "A" for the purpose of attempting to unlock the device via Touch ID in order to search the contents as authorized by this warrant.
- 5. As to any seized data storage devices:
- a. The government shall make an exact copy of all data and other electronically-stored information from the seized data storage devices within 10 business days after the warrant is executed. Upon written request by the owner of the seized data storage devices, the government shall provide the owner with a copy of any requested data and electronically-stored information that does not constitute contraband or instrumentalities of a crime. The government shall provide such copy to the owner within a reasonable time after a written request is made. If the government withholds any data or electronically-stored information requested by the owner, the government shall identify the data and information withheld and explains why it was not produced. The government and the owner shall negotiate the procedures for providing copies of data and electronically-stored information, which may require the owner to provide blank storage media at his or her expense.
- b. The reasonable time period for providing the owner with a copy of data and electronically-stored information includes the time required for the government to analyze the data and information to determine whether they contain contraband or instrumentalities of a crime. Although the court has not set a specific time period for such production, the government shall provide the owner with a copy of the data and electronically-stored information requested as soon as practicable under the existing circumstances.
- c. At the conclusion of the criminal investigation and any related criminal proceedings, the government shall return the seized data storage devices, and any data and information contained thereon, to the owner, except for any data storage devices, data and information which are contraband or instrumentalities of a crime or which are subject to forfeiture under federal or state law.

RBF

ATTACHMENT "C" AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT

I, Special Agent Jacob C. Dezern, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

INTRODUCTION AND AGENT BACKGROUND

- 1. I am a Special Agent (SA) with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and have been so employed for eight years. I am currently assigned to the Counter-Intelligence squad of the San Antonio Division of the FBI. In this capacity, I am responsible for investigating violations of federal law involving national security matters. I have received training in conducting national security investigations both at the FBI Academy and during other in-service training classes.
- 2. As a Federal Agent, I am authorized to investigate violations of United States laws and to execute warrants issued under the authority of the United States.
- 3. I am investigating CHENGYU WANG (hereafter "WANG"), who resides at Room Number C414D, 1002 Gorgas Circle, Building 1002, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, for violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, fraud and false statements. As shown below, there is probable cause to believe that WANG was in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, by making materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements during an interview with the FBI on 6 December 2018. At this time, the FBI was investigating WANG regarding potential of being an unregistered agent of a foreign power charges. The FBI believes WANG made these statements to conceal his practice of utilizing the secure messaging application WeChat¹ in communications with members of the Chinese Ministry of Public Security (MPS) in order to obtain instructions from officials of the People's Republic of China (PRC). I submit this application and affidavit in

¹ WeChat is a Chinese multi-purpose messaging, social media, and mobile payment application developed by Tencent.

support of a search warrant authorizing a search of the residence located at Room Number C414D, 1002 Gorgas Circle, Building 1002, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas (the "premises") and the person of WANG for any cellular telephone and digital device of WANG's capable of downloading or using WeChat, as further described in Attachment "A". I seek to seize the evidence, fruits, and instrumentalities of the forgoing criminal violation, which relate to WANG lying to the FBI agents relating to the requirement of all agents operating under the direction or control of foreign governments or foreign officials to notify the Attorney General before acting. I request authority to search the entire premises, including the dwelling for any computer and computer media located therein where the items specified in Attachment "B" may be found, and to seize all items listed in Attachment "B" as instrumentalities, fruits, and evidence of crime.

4. This factual information is based upon my investigation and the investigation of fellow FBI Agents in this matter to date. This affidavit is intended to show only that there is sufficient probable cause for the requested warrant and does not set forth all of my knowledge about this matter.

APPLICABLE LAW

- 5. Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, False and Fraud Statements, states:
- (a) whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Government of the Unites States, knowingly and willfully –
- (1) falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact;
- (2) makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation; or
- (3) makes or use any false writing or document, knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry; shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not

more than 5 years or, if the offense involves international or domestic terrorism, imprisoned not more than 8 years, or both.

BACKGROUND CONCERNING CHINESE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY

- 6. The MPS is China's principal police authority responsible for police functions in China's civilian sector. The MPS was among the first government ministries of the PRC. The MPS was created in 1949 by the National Congress from the Communist Party's Central Department of Social Affairs.²
- 7. The MPS is responsible for directing the nation's public security and law enforcement efforts, and for maintaining social and political stability. Another mission of the MPS is collecting intelligence and analyzing information on criminal trends and threats to political stability. The MPS has an estimated total of 1.8 million personnel nationwide, with members assigned to public security bureaus at the provincial, city, and country levels of government. This estimated number also includes the 660,000-strong Provincial People's Armed Police, which during peacetime is jointly controlled with the Ministry of Defense. ³

PROBABLE CAUSE

8. CHENGYU WANG (hereafter "WANG") joined the United States Army under the Military Ascensions Vital to National Interest (MAVNI) program. The MAVNI program is a program designed to recruit foreign individuals with critical language skills to join the military in exchange for expedited citizenship. On or about 27 April 2016, WANG submitted an Application for Naturalization in the United States. A review of WANG's Application for Naturalization in November 2018 revealed that WANG concealed his relationship with an individual associated

² Marine Corps Intelligence Reference Document. Product Number: MCIA-2231-CHN-118-15

³ Marine Corps Intelligence Reference Document. Product Number: MCIA-2231-CHN-118-15

with the Chinese MPS, as well as other individuals associated with the CCP, to include himself. WANG's association with the MPS and CCP were discovered during numerous interviews he had with the United States (U.S.) Army, and an interview he had with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Following his interview with the FBI on 6 December 2018, it was determined that false statements were made by WANG to the interviewing Agents.

- 9. On or about 28 June 2016, WANG was interviewed regarding his U.S. Naturalization Application by a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration officer. Regarding the questions in the application, which were repeated in the interview, WANG answered "No," both written and orally, to the following questions:
 - Have you EVER been a member of, or in any way associated (either directly or indirectly) with the Communist Party?
 - Were you EVER a member of, or did you EVER serve in, help, or otherwise participate in, any of the following groups: Military Unit?
 - Did you EVER receive any type of military, paramilitary (a group of people who act like a military group but are not part of the official military), or weapons training?
- 10. On 8 February 2017, during a MAVNI screening interview with the U.S. Army, WANG stated that his father's friend, Ke Gong (hereafter "GONG"), was a part of the MPS and was in charge of state security. During a subsequent U.S. Army Counterintelligence focused interview on 27 July 2017, WANG stated that GONG was a Bureau Director within the Department of Public Safety who dealt with internal threats and intelligence in Dalian, China. WANG added that GONG introduced WANG to three or four male friends looking for information pertaining to U.S. Citizenship, while WANG was stationed in San Antonio, Texas.

WANG also stated that he was introduced to the individuals by GONG on WeChat⁴. WANG advised that he spoke to the individuals, at GONG's request, about acquiring U.S. Citizenship, the quality of the schools in the U.S., and which schools in the U.S. were difficult to gain admission to. WANG further stated that the last time he spoke to GONG was May or June 2017.

- 11. On or about 7 November 2018, a review of the Consular Consolidated Database (CCD) revealed a DS-160 application report for GONG. The DS-160 revealed that GONG's previous employer was the Dalian Public Security Bureau, as a Director, working Economic Criminal Investigations. GONG's most recent B1/B2 VISA was issued July 13, 2011
- 12. Also, during the U.S. Army's 27 July 2017 interview, WANG stated that his second cousin, Daming Li (hereafter "LI"), was a representative of the CCP. WANG added that he communicates with LI one or two times per week via WeChat. This statement also revealed a direct contradiction concerning WANG's response to the question from the U.S. Application for Naturalization regarding whether WANG had ever associated directly or indirectly with any members of the CCP.
- 13. On or about 7 November 2018, a review of the Consular Consolidated Database (CCD) revealed a DS-160 application report for LI. The DS-160 revealed that LI's employer is also the Dalian Public Security Bureau, where he listed his duties as an officer. LI's most recent B1/B2 VISA was issued 11 July 2016.
- 14. On 6 December 2018, WANG was interviewed by FBI Special Agents Jacob Dezern and Derrick Criswell (hereafter "interviewing agents") at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. At the beginning of the interview, WANG was advised by the interviewing agents that lying to a federal officer was a felony, as WANG indicated that he understood and would be

⁴ WeChat is a Chinese multi-purpose messaging, social media, and mobile payment application developed by Tencent.

truthful. WANG was asked if he had ever been a member of, or in any way associated (either directly or indirectly) with the Communist Party. WANG stated that both of his parents were members of the CCP and that he had mentioned this on his U.S. Naturalization Application and during his interview for U.S. Citizenship. The FBI's investigation revealed that it was not mentioned on WANG's U.S. Naturalization Application or during his interview for U.S. Citizenship. WANG further indicated in his interview that he was a member of the Chinese Youth Communism Organization and that he had applied for CCP membership during his freshman year of college. When asked by the interviewing agents if he was ever a member of, or did he EVER serve in, help, or otherwise participate in a Military unit, as WANG stated "No." WANG was also asked by the interviewing agents if he ever received any type of military, paramilitary (a group of people who act like a military group but are not part of the official military), or weapons training, as WANG stated "No." When WANG was confronted by the interviewing agents with the statements he made during his 27 July 2017 interview with the U.S. Army, WANG then indicated that he had participated in drills, where he learned how to fire bullets and march, with the Chinese Army for two weeks prior to attending college in China. During the aforementioned 27 July 2017 interview with the U.S. Army, WANG stated the training he received with the Chinese Army was mandatory and focused on discipline, drill and ceremony, hand-to-hand combat training, and firearms training. The statements WANG made with the interviewing agents and U.S. Army regarding his training with the Chinese Army contradict his oral and written responses to the questions asked from his U.S. Application for Naturalization in 2016. Furthermore, in a separate MAVNI screening interview conducted by the Army on 8 February 2017, WANG stated that he had obtained CCP membership his junior year of college. This statement also contradicts WANG's oral and written responses to the questions from the Application for Naturalization from the previous year, and is also inconsistent with the statement made to the interviewing agents

- 15. Also on 6 December 2018, when asked how he communicated with anyone back in China, WANG told the interviewing agents phone calls, sometimes messages, including WeChat. WANG was asked if WeChat was on his phone or computer, and WANG replied that he used mostly his phone, but you could also use a laptop, MacBook, "or whatever."
- 16. Most importantly, when WANG was asked by the interviewing agents if GONG had ever asked him to speak with any individuals about coming to the US, or acquiring U.S. citizenship, WANG stated "No," that he and GONG never had held any private conversations. The interviewing agents believe WANG's statement regarding GONG was false based off of the statement WANG made previously to the U.S. Army on 27 July 2017, as identified in paragraph #10 above in that WANG told the U.S. Army officers he spoke with Chinese intelligence officials on WeChat. The search of WANG's communication devices would prove WANG's false statements to the interviewing FBI agents.
- 17. On 6 December 2018 following his interview, WANG was reminded that he was to be truthful with the interviewing agents. WANG was read, verbatim the "Acknowledgement of Penalties for False Statements to the FBI" document. WANG declined to sign the document but acknowledged he understood. WANG was also asked if he would like to change any answers previously given. WANG responded "No."
- 18. On multiple occasions subsequent to WANG's submission of his Application for Naturalization, it was revealed that WANG, in a matter within the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Government of the United States, knowingly and willfully made materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representation.

CONCLUSION:

19. Based on the forgoing, your Affiant believes there is probable cause to believe that evidence of the stated violations is maintained on the stated premises, person and items as more fully described in Attachment "B". By this affidavit and application, I request the Court issue a warrant allowing agents to search and seize the information maintained on the stated premises, person and items more fully described in Attachment "B". This Affidavit has been reviewed by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Roomberg.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOB C. DEZERN

Special Agent

January

Federal Bureau of Investigations

Subscribed and sworn to before me on _

HONORABLE RICHARD B. FARRER

United States Magistrate Judge

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Western District of Texas

West	em District of Texas
In the Matter of the Search of (Briefly describe the property to be searched or identify the person by name and address) PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT "A" - PROPERTY TO BE SEARCHED DESCRIF)) Case No. SA-19-MJ-0002) PTION)
SEARCE	H AND SEIZURE WARRANT
To: Any authorized law enforcement officer	
An application by a federal law enforcement of the following person or property located in the (identify the person or describe the property to be searched and	nt officer or an attorney for the government requests the search Western District of Texas d give its location):
See Attachment "A", incorporated herein by refe	erence.
I find that the affidavit(s), or any recorded described above, and that such search will reveal (id	testimony, establish probable cause to search and seize the person or property dentify the person or describe the property to be seized):
See Attachment "B", incorporated herein by refe	erence.
YOU ARE COMMANDED to execute this in the daytime 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.	is warrant on or before $\frac{OI/I7/2019}{13}$ (not to exceed 14 days) at any time in the day or night because good cause has been established.
	you must give a copy of the warrant and a receipt for the property taken to the operty was taken, or leave the copy and receipt at the place where the
The officer executing this warrant, or an off as required by law and promptly return this warrant	ficer present during the execution of the warrant, must prepare an inventory and inventory to Richard B. Farrer, U.S. Magistrate Judge . (United States Magistrate Judge)
§ 2705 (except for delay of trial), and authorize the property, will be searched or seized (check the appropriate of the content of the conte	at immediate notification may have an adverse result listed in 18 U.S.C. officer executing this warrant to delay notice to the person who, or whose viate box) ne facts justifying, the later specific date of
Date and time issued: $\frac{61/03/20/9}{20/9}$	Judge's signature
City and state: San Antonio, Texas	Richard B. Farrer, U.S. Magistrate Judge Printed name and title

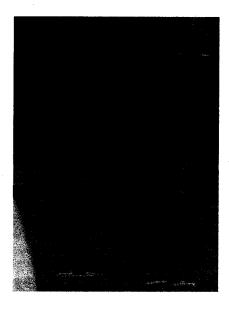
Case 5:19-mj-00002-RBF Document 3 Filed 01/03/19 Page 13 of 15

AO 93 (Rev. 11/13) Search and Seizure Warrant (Page 2)

Return							
Case No.: SA-19-MJ-0002	Date and time warrant executed:	Copy of warrant and inventory left with:					
Inventory made in the presence of:							
Inventory of the property taken and name of any person(s) seized:							
· ·							
. · ·							
Certification I declare under penalty of perjury that this inventory is correct and was returned along with the original warrant to the designated judge.							
Date:		Executing officer's signature					
		Printed name and title					

ATTACHMENT "A" PROPERTY TO BE SEARCHED

1. This warrant applies to Room Number C414D, 1002 Gorgas Circle, Building 1002, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas. A drive by of 1002 Gorgas Circle, Building 1002, Joint Base San Antonio, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas, revealed a multi-story barracks building. In front of the barracks was the sign "4100 Bivouac Rd, Charlie Company, 187th Medical Battalion." A photo copy of the sign is below.



- 2. The person of Chengyu Wang, date of birth October 03, 1990.
- 3. The cellular telephone of Chengyu Wang.

ATTACHMENT "B" ITEMS TO BE SEIZED AND SEARCHED

All information described that constitutes fruits, contraband, evidence and instrumentalities of violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1001, including:

- 1. Cellular telephone.
- 2. Any digital device capable of downloading or using secure messaging application WeChat including but not limited to, computer, hard drive, universal serial bus storage devices, CPU, smart phone, cellular phone, any kind of tablet or iPad, or video gaming console such as Xbox or PlayStation.
- 3. Correspondence pertaining to operating under the direction or control of foreign governments or foreign officials, other than diplomats.
- 4. During the execution of the search of the premises, the person of Wang, and any cellular telephone in Attachment "A", law enforcement personnel are authorized to press the fingers (including thumbs) of individuals found at the premises and Wang to the Touch ID sensor electronic device(s), smart phone, any kind of tablet or iPad, found at the premises, or on the person of Wang as described in Attachment "A" for the purpose of attempting to unlock the device via Touch ID in order to search the contents as authorized by this warrant.
- 5. As to any seized data storage devices:
- a. The government shall make an exact copy of all data and other electronically-stored information from the seized data storage devices within 10 business days after the warrant is executed. Upon written request by the owner of the seized data storage devices, the government shall provide the owner with a copy of any requested data and electronically-stored information that does not constitute contraband or instrumentalities of a crime. The government shall provide such copy to the owner within a reasonable time after a written request is made. If the government withholds any data or electronically-stored information requested by the owner, the government shall identify the data and information withheld and explains why it was not produced. The government and the owner shall negotiate the procedures for providing copies of data and electronically-stored information, which may require the owner to provide blank storage media at his or her expense.
- b. The reasonable time period for providing the owner with a copy of data and electronically-stored information includes the time required for the government to analyze the data and information to determine whether they contain contraband or instrumentalities of a crime. Although the court has not set a specific time period for such production, the government shall provide the owner with a copy of the data and electronically-stored information requested as soon as practicable under the existing circumstances.
- c. At the conclusion of the criminal investigation and any related criminal proceedings, the government shall return the seized data storage devices, and any data and information contained thereon, to the owner, except for any data storage devices, data and information which are contraband or instrumentalities of a crime or which are subject to forfeiture under federal or state law.